THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) The losses incurred by NTC Mills situated in Maharashtra during the years 1987-88 and 1988-89 is given below:—

Year	Losses incurred (Rs. in Crores)
1987-88	87.91
1988-89	115.59

(b) The following are the major reasons for continuous losses of NTC units in Maharashtra:—

(i) Old and obsolete machinery;

(ii) Surplus labour force;

(iii) Inadequate modernisations;

(iv) Absenteeism;

(v) Recurring Power Cuts;

(vi) Shortage of funds for working capital;

(vii) Competition from powerloom Sector.

Country's Internal and External debt Position

1125. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantum of the country's external and internal debts separately as on 31st December, 1989;

(b) the total amount of servicing charges; and

(c) the concrete steps Government propose to take to reduce the debt burden and the servicing charges?

THE FINANCE MINISTER (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) The total internal and external debts outstanding against the country as on 31-3-1989 is estimated to be Rs. 203726 crores and Rs. 68831 crores respectively. The information as on 31-12-1989 is not available.

(b) The amount of interest payment during 1988-89 on internal debt and external debt is estimated to have been Rs. 14278 crores and Rs. 2695 crores respectively.

(c) The Government has taken a number of steps to bring about improvements in revenue receipts and eliminate inessential and low priority expenditure, to boost exports and to increase invisible earnings, to ensure efficient import substitution and to reduce dependencey on borrowed funds for financing expenditure.

State funding of eelctions

1126. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision about State funding of elections;

(b) whether Government have considered the British model to provide opposition parties grants based on the number of seats won by them; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative what other proposal is under consideration of Government for State funding of elections?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c) The question of "State funding" is presently under consideration of the Committee on Electoral Reforms appointed by the Government. A comparative study on the subject (including the British model) is also being made by the Committee.